



Beating the Clock

Employment Source and the Urban League are equipping the unemployed to re-enter the workforce

The clock is ticking. For those who have been searching for work the longest, the unemployment benefit period is coming to an end. Those individuals are designated "exhaustees" by the government, and approximately 300,000 Ohioans are about to become exhaustees—the largest group since the recession began. Many exhaustees have been searching for work for nine months or longer. Although the economic recovery will be slow for years to come, there are jobs. Many go unfilled because job seekers' skills don't match the available positions. The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton is working with two local organizations to ensure that jobseekers are equipped with the skills



May 2012 graduates, Employment Source Career Advancement Program.

today's employers are seeking—and can market themselves effectively to employers.

The Foundation awarded a grant to the **Workforce Initiative Association** to help support its Employment Source Career Advancement Program, in the wake of federal budget cuts that reduced the organization's

budget by nearly 30%. The program helps clients in Stark and Tuscarawas counties get—and stay—employed. To be eligible for services, clients must have household incomes at or below 200% of the poverty level. Employment Source has an excellent track record, having placed more than 5,300 people in new jobs between 2008 and 2010.

While training is crucial, teaching clients how to present themselves in the best light is equally important. This is especially true for exhaustees, who already have a strike against them: many employers are reluctant to hire those who have been unemployed for a long time.

To ace interviews, building confidence is key. Clients participate in mock interviews, which greatly reduces anxiety. Many Career Advancement Program graduates cite the mock interviews as a pivotal preparation tool. A job coach mentors each client while in the program, and also follows up with the client three months after hiring.

For 43-year-old Michael Burgardt, the program was

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SISTERS of CHARITY
FOUNDATION
OF CANTON

As a faith-based organization,

We Believe in ...

...approaching all that we do with deliberation, compassion, charity, integrity, prudence, inclusiveness, and humility.

...respecting and valuing cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity by operating in a manner that supports and enhances the dignity of individuals and communities.

...respecting and valuing each person's strengths and abilities by including in the decision-making process those affected by our decisions.

...addressing the root causes of poverty by focusing our efforts on nurturing healthy communities, especially with respect to the poor and underserved.

...supporting and enhancing the well-being of children and families.

...collaborating with foundations, organizations, and other systems to leverage assets and resources whenever possible.

...striving for actions that are strategic, timely, outcome-oriented, and directed toward long-term systemic change.



President's Message

Dear Friends,

With our new strategic plan in place, we've begun a new chapter here at the Foundation. While we continue our work in early childhood and health access, we're also extending our proactive grantmaking. In conjunction with our ongoing basic aid and homelessness prevention efforts, we're focusing on workforce development. The Workforce Initiative Association and the Greater Stark County Urban League are just two organizations on the front lines, preparing clients to meet the needs of today's employers. We are honored to partner with them.

The staff is already moving forward on several other objectives within our strategic plan and has had a number of great conversations with current and prospective partners. We are grateful for the opportunity to branch out into new areas and to work with a broad array of individuals and organizations, all of whom—we hope—will benefit from these efforts. We will share much more with you in the coming months.

In this newsletter, we've also included an overview of some of the highlights from the past year—those major projects of which we are most proud. Following our fifteenth anniversary celebration and the implementation of the strategic plan, we took just a moment to assess everything we've done thus far. More than a list of bullet points, these efforts represent the diligence and determination of hundreds of committed individuals collaborating for the benefit of our entire community. While we still have a lot of work to do, we have wonderful partners and a plan for how to proceed. We are fortunate, determined, and optimistic. But most of all, we're ready to work!

Sincerely,

Joni T. Close
President





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Alexis Johnson

a game changer. With 25 years of experience in restaurant management, Michael was far more accustomed to asking interview questions than answering them. His facilitator, Lori, helped him update his resume, develop interview techniques, and learn to anticipate interview questions. After attending a job fair, Michael was offered two different management positions; he is pleased to be working as a restaurant manager once again. The benefits of the program go beyond refining skills; networks are forged as well. Michael plans to stay in touch with his seven Career Advancement Program classmates.

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton also awarded a grant to the **Greater Stark County Urban League** for its Work Readiness Program. The program helps clients improve their skills, get jobs, and stay employed,

by offering education, training, and support. The program serves clients in Alliance, Massillon, and southeast Canton. Once a client is employed, the Urban League's employment specialist and other staff members follow up with program participants to monitor their employment status.

On its face, the Urban League's Work Readiness Program appears similar to the Employment Source's Career Advancement Program, and the two programs do indeed offer similar programming. However, there are differences in the manner in which services are delivered and in the population each program is targeting. The Urban League's training curriculum helps job seekers and workplace managers bridge cultural gaps and foster achievement. Because the Urban League's services are designed to be culturally relevant and are offered in the clients' neighborhood communities, clients feel more comfortable seeking services and they build authentic relationships with Urban League staff members.

There is certainly a need to tailor services directly to this particular population. Economists predict that as jobs become harder to find

at every level, those most affected will be residents of inner city neighborhoods and young members of minority groups. According to the Urban League's President and CEO, Vince Watts, 45% of adults older than 25 residing in the southeast quadrant of Canton do not have a high school diploma or a GED. That figure stands in stark contrast with the Census Bureau's 2009 figure of 12.4% for the entire state.

Many of these workers lack literacy skills and other basic workplace skills. Their limited exposure to the world of work leaves them without "soft skills" such as communication, interpersonal relations, and teamwork. The Urban League ensures that clients are equipped with those soft skills that can make the difference in whether an employee is retained and promoted.

Alexis Johnson had been an unemployed child care worker for "quite a while" when she entered the Urban League's Work Readiness Program in January 2011. She learned how to refine her resume, search for a job, cope with interview anxiety, and present herself as a professional. Because one of Alexis' interests was administrative work, the Urban League actually hired her as a

part-time administrative assistant, and then helped her secure a full-time position in Akron. Alexis lives in Canton and was experiencing transportation issues; the Urban League offered her a one-month bus pass. While she ultimately didn't need to use that pass, the offer is a great example of how the organization commits to each client's success. Alexis now works as a sales rep for DirecTV, at a facility much closer to her home. She still occasionally visits her former colleagues at the Urban League and looks fondly upon her time there.

The Workforce Initiative Association and the Greater Stark County Urban League are just two of the many organizations partnering with the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton to give the most vulnerable in our community the greatest chance of security and success.



2011 Highlights

The Foundation celebrated its 15th anniversary at a luncheon held on April 11, 2011. Keynote speaker and internationally renowned early education and care expert Dr. Sharon Lynn Kagan stated that the Foundation's initiatives have systematically improved all major aspects of early education and care: children and families, schools, and systems. Some other highlights were:

- In 2011, the Foundation awarded **64 grants** totaling **\$2.7 million**.
- The Foundation embarked upon a year-long **strategic planning** process to ensure that our work is rooted in our mission and tailored to the current needs of our community. We will strengthen current efforts and existing programs while adding new areas of focus such as obesity prevention, educational resources for families of children in grades k-6, and workforce development.
- The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton co-sponsored and helped to plan a conference on **Surviving and Thriving in Stark County**. Keynote speaker Ruby Payne, co-author of *Bridges Out of Poverty*, addressed more than 300 attendees from social services, education, health care, and other human services fields.
- In 2009, the **Prescription Assistance Network of Stark County**, a collaborative outgrowth of the Foundation's health care access initiatives, established the third charitable pharmacy in Ohio. In 2011 alone, the pharmacy filled 19,380 prescriptions valued at \$1.4 million for 1,009 low-income clients.
- The Foundation convened leaders in an unprecedented effort uniting public and parochial schools to address the **bullying epidemic**. A grant of \$89,460 for programming and \$10,000 to support evaluation over three years will allow hundreds of school staff members from all over Stark County to be trained in the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program.
- The Foundation awarded a grant of \$148,000 for a two-year effort to provide **health screenings for young children** (ages 6 weeks to 5 years) from our community's most impoverished early childhood centers, to identify issues with vision, hearing, oral health, hemoglobin (anemia), and lead levels that are known to cause developmental and learning delays.
- The **Bethlehem Project for Oral Health** provided oral health care and/or education to 363 Stark County residents. The Bethlehem Project began working with a new evaluation team headed by Dr. Catherine Demko from Case Western Reserve University.
- In 2011, the **SPARK Ohio** kindergarten readiness program served the families of 1,362 preschool-age children in six Ohio counties. In Cuyahoga County, SPARK expanded to serve two additional elementary school neighborhoods, thanks to the efforts of several Cleveland-based funders.

In its first 15 years, the Foundation has awarded:

- \$28.9 million in responsive grants to the community;
- \$12.4 million through Foundation initiatives focusing on health care access and early childhood; and
- Over \$1.2 million to address targeted community issues.
- **More than \$24 million has been leveraged through additional grants.**





Grant Application Process Workshop

In response to a number of requests for additional help during the grant application process, the Foundation has restructured the Good Samaritan grant application workshop and opened it up to all organizations interested in applying for funding. The newly formatted Grant Application Process Workshop will be held twice each year. Any nonprofit organization intending to apply for funding is encouraged to send a representative to the workshop. Participants will learn about the Foundation's grantmaking structure, guidelines, and application process. Grant seekers will have an opportunity to ask questions and get answers from Foundation staff to help them with the grant application process. *The next workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.*

Interested? RSVP to Trudy Brown at (330) 454-5800 or tbrown@scfcanton.org

2011 Grant Awards: \$2,714,955¹

Since 1996, when the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine established the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton, the Foundation has worked to improve the lives of the poor and underserved in Stark and surrounding counties, through grantmaking, strategic collaboration, and proactive community support. The Foundation has invested more than \$40 million and leveraged more than \$21 million to support long-term strategic initiatives in early childhood and health care access, as well as grassroots efforts focusing on a myriad of community issues, from homelessness to mental health services to the prevention of bullying and violence.

The Foundation is committed to ensuring that those who are most in need have their needs addressed, that those who need a helping hand can find a way through the darkness, and that those whose lives are derailed can heal – and thrive. We believe that the cycle of poverty can be broken, and that the entire community benefits when those who are at risk are guided to better lives. We are proud to be part of a diverse, collaborative community with so many vibrant organizations and community leaders working together to address those most critical needs. As we begin our sixteenth year of service, we reaffirm that commitment and vow to continue working with our many community partners to fulfill the mission of the Sisters.

The grants awarded for 2011 are as follows:

2011 Foundation-Led Initiatives		
Early Childhood Initiatives		
Early Childhood Resource Center	For operating support	\$ 245,000
<i>Early Experiences Last a Lifetime</i> parent education campaign	For operating support, including \$5,000 from Anonymous Donor Fund	55,592
J. R. Coleman Family Services Corp	To provide emergency assistance for families eliminated from subsidized child care - Anonymous Donor Fund	34,470
J. R. Coleman Family Services Corp	To support the opening of a new preschool classroom	4,000
Ohio Business Roundtable	To support the Early Learning Initiative	50,000
SPARK Ohio	For local and state SPARK program operating support	92,000
Stuckey Family Interfaith Child Development Center	For emergency assistance to families eliminated from subsidized child care - Anonymous Donor Fund	5,030
Third Sector New England	To support the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative	5,000



MISSION MATTERS

YWCA of Canton and Canton Preschool child care centers	For emergency assistance to families eliminated from subsidized child care - Anonymous Donor Fund	23,500
Other	Program-related expenses	14,091
	Subtotal	\$ 528,683
Health Care Access Initiatives		
Association of Ohio Health Commissioners	To support development of a state-level model for Ohio's local public health system	\$ 25,000
Community Services of Stark County	To support the Bethlehem Project for Oral Health	75,000
Health Policy Institute of Ohio	To improve the health and well-being of Ohioans through informed policy decisions, over two years	100,000
Prescription Assistance Network of Stark County, Inc.	For general operating support, over 19 months	158,500
Other	Program-related expenses	61,437
	Subtotal	\$ 419,937
2011 Strategic Collaborations		
Proactive Grants		
Stark County Educational Service Center	To support the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in Stark County public and parochial schools, over three years	\$ 89,460
Stark County Educational Service Center	To support evaluation of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program in Stark public and parochial schools, over three years	10,000
Stark County Family Council	To support health screenings for young children, over two years	148,000
Work Force Initiative Association	To support the participation of 200 individuals in the Employment Source Career Advancement Program and provide matching support for the scholarship program, over 18 months	130,000
	Subtotal	\$ 377,460
2011 Responding to Community Needs		
Responsive Grants		
Alliance Family YMCA	To support the capital campaign project	\$ 125,000
American Red Cross Stark County Regional Chapter	To support disaster relief for Stark County residents	5,000
Canton Symphony Orchestra	To support a community string initiative at Allen Elementary	12,660
Central Catholic High School	To support the President/Principal model, over three years	130,000
Community Services of Stark County	To support the purchase of a new facility for the Family Living Center in Massillon	100,000
Holmes County Board of Developmental Disabilities	To support dental clinic equipment upgrades	18,340
Liberty Center Connections	To support start-up costs for a social worker co-location model	25,000
Mercy Medical Center	To support the Immigrant Health Outreach program	45,000
Mercy Medical Center	To support the Skyline Terrace Youth programs	20,000
Mercy Medical Center	To support the expansion of emergency and trauma services	250,000
Multi Development Services of Stark County	To support the Career Club and to establish an outcome evaluation plan, over two years	59,000
Pathway Caring for Children	To support costs for a mental health therapist in Carroll County	20,000
Project REBUILD, Inc.	To support the Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate Training program	9,235
St. Anthony/All Saints Parish	To support a Latino outreach program, over three years	65,000
St. Thomas Aquinas High School	To support the President/Principal model, over three years	130,000
Sisters of Charity Health System	To support the Building Healthy Communities effort	12,500
Trillium Family Solutions	To support the Stark Works program	25,000



MISSION MATTERS

YMCA of Central Stark County	To support the capital project for the downtown YMCA	250,000
	Subtotal	\$ 1,301,735
Good Samaritan Grants		
Arlington Avenue Church of God	To support the <i>Book Bags of Blessings</i> program	\$ 5,000
Family Economic Success Program	For general operating support	2,500
Greater Stark County Urban League	To support the Work Readiness program	12,540
North Canton Playhouse "Spotlight On Youth"	To support bullying prevention dramas in middle and high schools in Stark and Tuscarawas Counties	5,000
Stark County Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Outreach Project	To support the systems navigation effort	1,500
Wayne County Schools Career Center	To support the Families Learning Together program	15,000
	Subtotal	\$ 41,540
2011 Other		
Special Projects		
Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank	Year-end gift	\$ 1,000
Blessings in a Backpack	To support the weekend food program at Dueber Elementary school	2,500
Catholic Charities of Stark County	Honorarium for Jim Armour, who served as a volunteer facilitator	1,000
Central Catholic High School	Participation in the Fund Raising School at Indiana University	2,200
Foundation Center	For training and support for Stark County nonprofits, over three years	1,500
McGregor Elementary School	2011 holiday gift in honor of the board of directors, to support literacy nights	1,000
Multi Development Services of Stark County	For emergency roof repair	5,000
Pathway Caring for Children	Participation in the Fund Raising School at Indiana University	2,200
Project KARE (Kids Are the Responsibility of Everyone)	For an informational event to help guidance counselors support the transition of foster youth into higher education	750
St. Thomas Aquinas High School	Participation in the Fund Raising School at Indiana University	2,200
Sisters of Charity Health System	To support the Catholic Health Association Campaign for Rebirth and Renewal, over three years	15,000
Stark Education Partnership, Inc.	For technology support for the Early College Academy in Canton	1,000
Stark State College	To sponsor the <i>Bridges Out of Poverty</i> conference with keynote speaker Dr. Ruby Payne	2,500
Viola Startzman Free Clinic	Participation in the Fund Raising School at Indiana University	2,200
Voices for Ohio's Children	To support the 2011 Children's Health Conference	1,000
Walsh University	Participation in the Fund Raising School at Indiana University	2,200
	Subtotal	\$ 43,250
Board Honorariums		
Alliance Family YMCA	Gift on behalf of retiring director Gerard Mastroianni	\$ 500
Alliance for Children and Families, Inc.	Gift on behalf of retiring officer Gerard Mastroianni	250
Central Catholic High School	Gift on behalf of retiring officer Robert Belden	250
Central Catholic High School	Gift on behalf of retiring director C. Todd Locke	500
Pathway Caring for Children	Gift on behalf of retiring director Renee Powell	100
Rainbow Repertory Company, Inc.	Gift on behalf of retiring director Ronald S. Young	500
SPARK Ohio	Gift on behalf of retiring officer Patricia Gramoy	250
	Subtotal	\$ 2,350
1. Includes \$68,000 from Anonymous Donor Fund	2011 Total	\$ 2,714,955



SISTERS of CHARITY
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OF CANTON

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Our Mission

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of Canton supports and furthers the mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine. The principal components of their ministry are health, education, and social services. The Foundation's focus is on issues of social justice relating to the poor and underserved in the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

A Ministry of the Sisters of Charity Health System

Seeking a Grant? Workshops on our grant process are held twice a year; all prospective grant seekers are welcome. Our next workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. To register, please call 330-454-5800.

Good Samaritan - 2 cycles per year

- May 1 | Concept forms are due
- June 1 | If concept is approved, proposal is due
- September 1 | Awards are announced
- November 1 | Concept forms are due
- December 1 | If concept is approved, proposal is due
- March 1 | Awards are announced

Responsive - 2 cycles per year

- February 1 | Concept forms are due
- March 1 | If concept is approved, proposal is due
- June 1 | Awards are announced
- August 1 | Concept forms are due
- September 1 | If concept is approved, proposal is due
- December 1 | Awards are announced

If the due dates fall on a Saturday or Sunday please submit by Monday at 5:00 p.m.

www.sfcanton.org | 330.454.5800